
By: **Delegate Campbell**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2001

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Financing - Mentoring Program**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Education to adopt certain
4 regulations regarding statewide procedures for teacher mentoring programs;
5 and specifying certain requirements for certain plans for teacher mentoring
6 programs.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Education
9 Section 5-206(e) and 5-206.1
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article - Education**

15 5-206.

16 (e) (1) For fiscal year 1999 and every fiscal year thereafter, each school with
17 a free or reduced price student meal count of 25 percent or more of its student
18 population shall receive an \$8,000 grant to enhance teacher development in dealing
19 with at-risk students.

20 (2) Beginning in fiscal year 1999, the Governor shall include in each
21 year's operating budget not less than the amount appropriated in fiscal year 1998 for
22 the Baltimore County Teacher Mentoring Program. In addition to that amount, the
23 Baltimore County Teacher Mentoring Program shall receive \$5,000,000 annually to
24 enhance its teacher mentoring program as a pilot to determine best practices for
25 mentoring teachers working with at-risk students and addressing teacher retention
26 in schools with high at-risk student populations.

27 (3) For fiscal year 1999 and every fiscal year thereafter, the Governor
28 shall include in each year's operating budget \$2 million to fund a teacher mentoring

1 program in Prince George's County which shall be modeled after the Baltimore
2 County Teacher Mentoring Program.

3 (4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING
4 STATEWIDE PROCEDURES FOR TEACHER MENTORING PROGRAMS.

5 (5) To the extent funds are provided in the State budget or are available
6 from other sources for this purpose, the Department and each public school system
7 shall expand existing professional development programs for school-based
8 administrators and principals and develop new programs to assist these individuals
9 in dealing with at-risk students.

10 5-206.1.

11 (a) It is the intent of this section to provide competitive grants to encourage
12 county boards to expand and develop mentoring programs.

13 (b) Subject to the appropriation of funds in the annual State budget, the State
14 Superintendent annually shall distribute in accordance with the criteria specified in
15 subsection (c) of this section competitive grants to county boards for expansion of
16 mentor programs.

17 (c) (1) A county board applying for a grant under this section shall submit a
18 plan for funding to the State Superintendent AND THE PLAN SHALL INCLUDE THE
19 REQUIREMENT THAT, BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER, THE MENTOR AND THE TEACHER
20 SHALL MEET AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.

21 (2) The State Superintendent shall give priority to plans targeting funds
22 to schools in which 40% of the students receive free or reduced price meals.

23 (3) In addition to the criteria in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the
24 State Superintendent shall give priority to plans targeting funds to schools in which:

25 (i) 50% or more of the teachers have 5 years or less of teaching
26 experience; or

27 (ii) Student achievement scores on local, State, and national
28 assessments are at or below a satisfactory level.

29 (d) The total grants distributed under this section for any fiscal year may not
30 exceed \$5,000,000.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
32 effect October 1, 2001.